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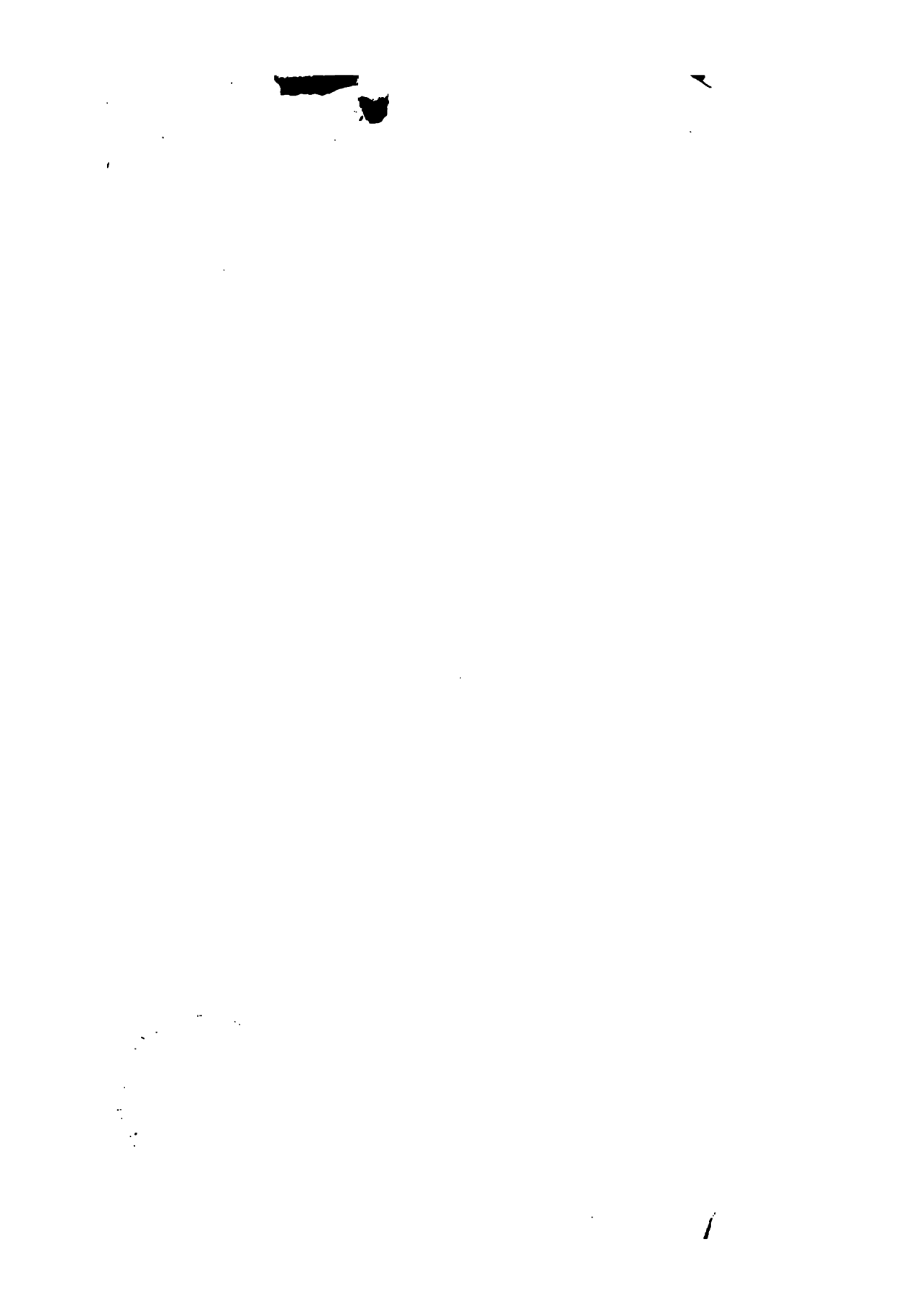
FORT MARION,
ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA.

-BY-

HERBERT WELSH,
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY INDIAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION.

PHILADELPHIA:
OFFICE OF THE INDIAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION,
No. 136 FIFTH STREET.

1887.



OFFICE OF THE INDIAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION,
No. 1316 FILBERT STREET,
Philadelphia, March 15, 1887.

Report of a visit to the Chiricahua Apache Indians at present confined in Fort Marion, St. Augustine, Florida. By Herbert Welsh, Corresponding Secretary, I. R. A.

REASONS FOR VISITING FORT MARION.

My journey to St. Augustine was undertaken at the instance and by the authority of the Executive Committee of the Indian Rights Association. Its object was to gain reliable and exact information concerning the Apache Indians, men, women and children, some of whom, for nearly a year past, and others for about half that period, have been imprisoned by order of the President, in the old Spanish fort at St. Augustine. As much doubt existed in the public mind regarding the causes which led to the imprisonment of these people, their physical and moral condition while in captivity, and the measures in operation looking toward their civilization, this visit of investigation was deemed by the Association to be advisable.

FACILITIES GRANTED BY THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

Letters of introduction to the Secretary of War, Hon. William C. Endicott, were kindly granted me by Francis Parkman, Esq., and Hon. Leverett Saltonstall, of Boston. With these I made application to the Secretary for permission to visit Fort Marion, in pursuit of the object stated, and also asked that a military officer thoroughly acquainted with the Apaches, and for many years a student of their history and customs, might be permitted to accompany me. In answer to this request the Secretary kindly authorized him to go with me, and gave me a letter of introduction to Brigadier General R. B. Ayres, the Commandant of St. Francis Barracks, St. Augustine.

CHIRICAHUA APACHE CHILDREN AT CARLISLE.

Leaving Philadelphia Wednesday, March 22, I went immediately to Carlisle, Pa., where I was the guest of Captain R. H. Pratt, Superintendent of the Government Indian Training School at that place. I arrived at the school at three o'clock, Wednesday afternoon, and left there at one the day following. My especial purpose

in going to Carlisle was to see the Chiricahua Apache boys and girls, who were taken last November from among the other Indians in confinement in Fort Marion, and were, by order of the authorities, placed under Captain Pratt's care. When these children were first put at Carlisle they were wild, untrained, filthy savages. The few months during which they have been under Captain Pratt's guidance and in which they have breathed the civilizing atmosphere of the school, have wrought great changes in them. Of course, the miserable rags in which they were clad upon their arrival have disappeared and the children are now clean, neat and decently dressed. But the change effected in them is not of an outward nature only. They have learned, with surprising quickness, the ways of civilized living, and have made remarkable progress in simple studies; arithmetic, spelling and writing (with pen and ink, and on the blackboard). Physically, they are as strong as, if not stronger than, any other Indian children in the school, and every one who is brought in contact with them is impressed with their mental alertness and vigor. When they first came they quarrelled at times among themselves, and with other pupils. This combative disposition seems now to be rapidly subsiding, as they are coming more and more under the influence of habits of order and self-control. They have a respect for authority, and Captain Pratt told me they were as easily managed as any of the other children.

The Chiricahua Apache children taken from Fort Marion number in all forty-four; of these, thirty-two are boys and twelve girls. They are between the ages of twelve and twenty-two years. Before leaving Carlisle, Captain Pratt assembled these children in one of the large rooms and gave me an opportunity to tell them the reason for my visit to Carlisle, and of my proposed journey to their relatives in Florida. Upon my asking them whether they had any message to send by me to their friends, one boy replied: "Tell them to do what is right and to go to farming." I could not but think afterward when I saw the prisoners, that this advice, while excellent, was, under the circumstances, very difficult of application.

IMPORTANCE OF CAPTAIN PRATT'S WORK.

Captain Pratt's work at Carlisle in behalf, not alone of these Apache children, but of the five hundred representatives of other tribes under tuition at that place, is worthy of the highest commendation. In my opinion, a man of his experience, skill, energy, and

success in the work of Indian education should be entrusted by the government with ten-fold the powers that have been placed in the hands of Captain Pratt. Such action would be in the interest of the Indians as well as of economy.

I left Carlisle Thursday, March 3d, for Washington, where I remained to transact some matters of Indian business, until the following Monday, March 7th, when, in company with the military officer referred to, I started for St. Augustine. We arrived at the town on the afternoon of the following day, Tuesday, the 8th. We immediately repaired to the fort, where we were most courteously received by Lieutenants Conkling and Smith, who are in charge of the Indians confined there. We subsequently paid our respects to General R. B. Ayres, the commanding officer at St. Francis Barracks, which is at the lower end of the town. To all of these gentlemen we are indebted for much kindness, and by them every opportunity was afforded us to make a thorough and satisfactory examination of the Indians placed under their care.

FORT MARION.

Fort Marion, formerly named Fort San Marco, is a fine example of the old-time stone fortress of the Vauban pattern; with bastions, moat and watch towers. It is not built of ordinary stone, but of the coquina, a natural composition of tiny shells and sand. This fact suggests a point touching the sanitary condition of the prisoners, to which I shall refer later. Its walls enclose an open square, the sides of which measure about 180 feet. The exterior side of the fort is about 90 yards long. From the centre of this square one looks into the firm-set rectangular windows and doors of the casemates and barracks. The ramparts and watch-towers command a view of the town, the harbor, to which the outer walls of the fort extend, and the sea beyond.

CHIRICAHUA APACHE INDIAN PRISONERS IN FORT MARION.

The total number of Indian prisoners confined in Fort Marion last October, when the last party was brought there, amounted to about 500. There are now within its walls, including men, women and children, 447; of this number 77 were brought to Fort Marion April 13th, 1886. These had been captured on the war-path by General Crook, and belonged to Chihuahua's band of Chiricahua

Apaches. About 15 of them were warriors, and the remainder women and children. Lieutenant-Colonel Loomis L. Langdon, commanding the post at St. Augustine, August 23d, 1886, makes the following statement: "But as for the men, they do absolutely nothing, as a rule, beyond the necessary police of the old fort. They have no work. * * *

"But in justice to the men it must be said it is the unanimous verdict of all those who have anything to do with them that every man of them would willingly work if he had any work given him to do and was shown how to do it.

"It really seems, then, that the time has come to consider the question, what is to be done with these prisoners? In the nature of things they cannot remain prisoners here until they all die. * *

"Therefore I respectfully recommend that the whole party of prisoners be sent as soon as possible to Carlisle, Pennsylvania."

If a military officer of Colonel Langdon's position could recommend that Chihuahua and his hostiles should be sent away from Fort Marion to Carlisle, how much greater force should be given to my statement that Fort Marion is unsuited to the accommodation of 447 prisoners, and my recommendation that those innocent and friendly people sent with Chatto into confinement there, at a later date, should be immediately removed?

As I previously stated, 44 of the original number were taken to Carlisle. Twenty-two (six women, one man and fifteen children) have died in confinement. There have been ten births. Of the 447 Indians, 82 are men, the remainder women and children. It is an interesting fact, and one to which I desire to call especial attention, and upon which I desire to lay the strongest possible emphasis, that of the 82 men not more than 30 have been guilty of any recent misdoing,* whilst many of the remainder were employed in our Army as regularly commissioned scouts, first by General Crook, and afterwards by General Miles, to assist the soldiers in following up and finally securing the surrender of Geronimo and his hostiles. That these men should have been imprisoned on the same footing with those Indians who were at war with the United States, and that their fidelity, and, in some instances, their invaluable service rendered to our arms should have been re-

* These include the 15 men who, under Chihuahua, surrendered one year ago to General Crook, and those least prominent among Geronimo's hostiles who surrendered to General Miles last Autumn.

warded by incarceration, is a fact well calculated to attract attention and to elicit the condemnation of the public. Such is the case.

CHATTO'S STORY.

One of the most remarkable instances of such injustice is found in the case of Chatto, a Chiricahua Apache Indian, whose history I will briefly narrate. This man was at one time hostile and doubtless committed such acts of violence as Indians on the war-path indulge in. But in 1883 Chatto surrendered to General Crook in the Sierra Madre Mountains, at which time he made a promise of good behavior for the future, which he has never violated. He has since served as a scout in our Army under General Crook, in which capacity he has rendered valuable service. He has been engaged in farming at Fort Apache (San Carlos Reservation, A. T.), where he owns a house, fourteen acres of land, and several horses and mules. His house was built by his own unaided labor. Early last Summer, Mr. L. Q. C. Lamar, Jr., the son of the Secretary of the Interior, visited Fort Apache and held a conference with Chatto, and asked him to visit Washington. No hint was given to Chatto that he was under suspicion of wrong-doing, or that his proposed journey to the Capital was to terminate within prison walls. On the contrary the object of his visit, according to the statement made to him by Mr. Lamar, Jr., (I base my assertion on Chatto's account of the interview, and that of another witness, given me at Fort Marion), was to talk with the authorities concerning the possible removal of himself and his people to a better reservation. Chatto accordingly, about July 15, 1886, went to Washington with thirteen other Indians—men, women and two reliable interpreters, Concpcion, a Mexican who speaks Spanish and Apache, and Samuel Bowman, who speaks some Apache, but principally Spanish and English.

CHATTO'S CREDENTIALS.

Chatto was furnished with a certificate of good character by Mr. Lamar, Jr., which reads as follows :

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, July 31, 1886.

This is to certify that I know personally, Chatto, Chief of the Chiricahua Apache Indians, and that since his return to the reserva-

tion in 1883, he has lived peacefully with mankind, exerting at all times a good influence over his people. He has made the reputation of being a reliable and brave man.

L. Q. C. LAMAR, JR.

When Chatto was in Washington he had interviews with the President, Secretary Lamar, and Secretary Endicott. According to Chatto's statement, Secretary Lamar told him if he needed anything in the way of farming implements to ask for it. Chatto told him of his needs in this respect, and Mr. Lamar told him that if he would return he should receive these things. (Chatto had informed the Secretary that he did not wish to leave his old home at Fort Apache). Chatto was told to go home, to work, and to behave himself. Mr. Lamar further told him that he could return by way of Carlisle, because many of the men in his party had children there. Captain Dorst, the army officer who had charge of them, then took the Indians to Carlisle. After remaining there some time, orders came for them to return to the west. They started westward and journeyed three days and three nights, when the car they were in was detached from the train. Chatto states that he felt happy and bright at the prospect of reaching his home, when the first thing he knew he was back at Fort Leavenworth. Here Captain Dorst received orders from General Miles to meet him at Albuquerque. Upon his return, Captain Dorst said that General Miles would give them a reservation of so many square miles (60), and that they would lose none of their property that they had left behind. The new reservation he said, would contain better land than the old. Chatto supposed that he had taken pity on them because of their poverty. On this new reserve the new chief was to receive \$50 per month, and others, according to their station, \$30 and \$20 per month. The Indians were again started on their journey and finally arrived, not upon the new and better land promised them, but within the narrow limits of their prison. In concluding his narration, Chatto naively said, "I do not think this place looks as though it contained sixty square miles." The above is an abbreviated statement of Chatto's account of this affair.

Chatto showed me a heavy and beautiful silver medal given him by Secretary Lamar when he was in Washington. On one side of this medal was stamped the head of President Arthur, on the other

a settler pointing out to a conventional Indian the open hospitable door of his cottage. Above the cottage was the word "Peace." Upon the medal was engraved in small characters, "From Secretary Lamar to Chatto."

CHATTO COMPLAINS THERE IS NO WORK TO DO.

Chatto's complaint to me was that he had no chance to work; he wishes to do in the future as he has done in the past, to labor to support himself. I was much struck by Chatto's good appearance. He is forty years of age, a man in the vigor and prime of life. Although he wears his hair long—as do all the Apache men—he dresses in other respects like a decent white man. He wore a clean linen shirt and collar, a cravat, a vest and trousers, and a pair of leather top-boots. In lieu of a watch he carried the medal Mr. Lamar had given him in his vest pocket attached to a brass chain. In calling my attention to the fact that he was trying to preserve a good appearance, even in prison, he said: "You see I am dressed as you are." Chatto has a well-shaped head, and a manly, open expression of countenance. Among other credentials, Chatto showed me two official discharges from service, which he held, as a scout on expiration of term, one signed by Lieutenant Britton Davis, under date of July 1st, 1884, and the other by the late Captain Emmet Crawford, under date of October 23d, 1885. These are both papers certifying honorable discharge from the service. In both it is stated that no reason is known to exist against Chatto's re-enlistment. In one of these discharges Chatto's character is marked as "good," and in the other "excellent." I have also in my possession a copy of a document signed by the Honorable Secretary of War, (the original Chatto showed me) in which Mr. Endicott states that "President Cleveland has assured him that so long as he shall keep faith with the government his interests shall be looked after." What Chatto's view may be of the manner in which this pledge has been maintained I do not know.

MARTINEZ AND KI-E-TA'S STORY OF GERONIMO'S SURRENDER.

Martinez and Ki-e-ta are the names of the two Apache scouts who were commissioned by General Miles, shortly before the close of last autumn's campaign in the Sierra Madre Mountains, to visit the camp of Geronimo and his band in order to induce them to surrender. Both of these men I found in captivity in Fort Marion. I

interrogated them closely as to the circumstances attending their important mission which ultimately resulted in the surrender of Geronimo. Their statement is as follows: They were offered by General Miles ten ponies apiece if they would find Geronimo, enter his camp and persuade him to surrender. Accordingly they went out with Lieutenant Gatewood, who had with him 10 or 12 men, and after marching several days up hill and down, searching for the trail of the hostiles, they finally found it. Leaving the Lieutenant and the soldiers eight miles behind, the two Indian scouts went unattended into the camp of Geronimo. They spent three days with him trying to persuade him to leave the war-path and to surrender to General Miles. I made especial inquiry of these men as to the terms which General Miles had authorized them to offer Geronimo as the basis of his surrender. Ki-e-ta and Martinez state that General Miles instructed them to say to Geronimo that if he would surrender he might go back to Fort Apache, if he was unwilling to go to any other place. Geronimo finally consented to give himself up, and, in company with the scouts, Ki-e-ta and Martinez, he joined Lieutenant Gatewood and his detail of soldiers; but on the journey to General Miles Geronimo went off on another brief raid into Mexico, rejoining Gatewood on his march. It is evident, if the story of the two scouts be correct regarding this much controverted point of the terms on which Geronimo gave himself up, that the surrender was far from being unconditional. Indeed, the circumstances of the case would seem to show that General Miles was not in a position to demand the unconditional surrender of the hostiles, and that persuasion was a powerful factor in accomplishing the ultimate result. Certainly Geronimo hardly deserves the reputation for shrewdness which he has acquired if, when so far distant from his adversary, he consented to give himself up without terms. Ki-e-ta and Martinez complain that the promise of the ten ponies apiece if they succeeded in effecting the surrender has not been fulfilled; that they were given \$100 each, but that they did not deem that the equivalent of what had been pledged them. It was further stated that they were at first given but \$60, but that a military officer increased the amount to \$100 out of his own pocket. Why should the United States Government continue to imprison men who have rendered so valuable a service as that of Martinez and Ki-e-ta?

OTHER APACHE SCOUTS IMPRISONED.

I found also in Fort Marion, Gout-klil and Izilgan, the former a San Carlos Apache, the latter a Sierra Blanca Apache—neither of these are Chiricahua Apaches, but they have been identified with that tribe because they have married Chiricahua women. Both of them have served as scouts and have been faithful men.

To-Klanni is also in confinement. He is a Chiricahua who married a White Mountain Apache woman, and consequently left his own people to live with hers. He has not been on the war-path for many years, certainly not since 1872. He was one of General Crook's most trusted scouts in the Sierra Madre campaign.

Noche (also in captivity) was Captain Crawford's chief of scouts in the attack upon Geronimo's camp. He is a good man.

"Dutchey," a Chiricahua (also in captivity) was at Captain Crawford's side when that officer was murdered by the Mexicans, a year and a half ago. "Dutchey" shot the Mexican by whom Crawford was killed. He has abundant time to reflect upon the gratitude of Republics.

Lieutenant-Colonel Langdon reports, October 1, 1886: "There are at present confined in Fort Marion, 469 Indians, including adults and children, *also including 14 paid Indian scouts.*" * (Italics mine).

The above are but a few noticeable cases among the many similar instances to be found in the fort. No effort is being made to give these male adult prisoners any training in handicrafts, farming or other industries. They are employed occasionally in the light and insufficient labor of keeping the fort clean, and in a few odd jobs from time to time. Beyond this, so far as physical work is concerned, their time is passed in idleness.

HELPLESSNESS OF THE SITUATION.

The result of this condition of things, if permitted to continue much longer, must be disastrous, whether considered from a physical or a moral standpoint. At present there is no hopeful outlook for these men; no means by which their abundant physical vitality is being trained and developed in the ways of civilization.

It cannot be expected that they will long maintain a self-respect and manliness, which at present they clearly evince, if no road toward better things is opened to them.

*Ex. Doc., No. 73, 49th Congress, 2nd Session, Senate.

EDUCATIONAL WORK CARRIED ON BY MISS MATHER AND OTHER
LADIES.

A noble effort is being made for the instruction of the Apache men in English-speaking and simple studies, by some of the ladies of St. Augustine—Miss Mather, Mrs. Caruthers and the Misses Clark are engaged in this good work from 10 o'clock in the morning until 12. The two former of these ladies undertook a similar work with the Indian prisoners—Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas, and Comanches, who, ten years ago, were confined in this fort under the care of Captain Pratt. The remarkable success which they achieved is now a matter of history in the progress of Indian civilization. Upon the occasion of my visit, I found them busily engaged in one of the casemates of the fort teaching twenty-five full-grown men, with primers and black-board, the pronunciation of English words, arithmetic, spelling, etc. Bishop Whipple, distinguished for so many years as a friend of the Indians, said at the conclusion of the lesson, in speaking to them a few words of encouragement, that in his long experience of half a lifetime with Indians he had seen none who in so short a time had made so great progress. It was interesting to watch the intent, eager faces of these men—to mark the evident interest in their work evinced by them, and the quickness with which they followed the words of their teachers and caught their pronunciation.

The work of Miss Mather and her friends is a labor of love, and is rendered entirely gratuitously. This work is done in a highly intelligent manner, and should it be continued sufficiently long, will doubtless be productive of permanent and valuable results. The disadvantage likely to be attached to it is that it will not (I presume) be continued during the hot weather.

WORK OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY.

The Roman Catholics have entered into a contract with the Indian Bureau, by which 60 boys and girls, from among the children in the Fort, receive daily instruction from the sisters of St. Joseph. I visited the commodious school-room where the children are taken every morning and are taught by the sisters. I heard the children singing and in their recitations, and I was entirely pleased with all that I heard and saw. The sisters are ladies of cultivation and refinement, and, from all that I could learn during my brief visit,

are well fitted to perform the task assigned them. Under the terms of the contract, the Government pays for the tuition of these children \$7.50 quarterly per capita.

Whatever criticisms may justly be made upon the sanitary conditions at Fort Marion, should in no way reflect upon the officers in charge, who do all that is in their power to preserve the health of the Indians and to prevent the entrance of epidemic or other diseases. The Indians have been wisely required to camp upon the ramparts of the fort, where they have plenty of fresh air and sunshine, rather than to occupy the dark, damp and forbidding barracks and casemates. Had not this precaution been taken, it is likely that a much greater loss of life would have occurred than the Apache prisoners have yet suffered. Fort Marion is entirely inadequate to contain with safety and convenience the 447 prisoners now within its walls. The ramparts are closely crowded with tents, so that but a narrow space is left for passage way. Most of the tents are crowded with occupants. I walked frequently among them and observed their general condition as to cleanliness and order. Some were scrupulously clean and well kept; others indifferently so. As the women prepare all the food used by the prisoners, and it must be made ready in or near the tents, I noticed scraps of bread or meat lying about. This is, of course, undesirable, but, under the circumstances, I presume cannot be avoided. The women make small fires of sticks and logs in spare corners of the ramparts, over which one sees coffee boiling or meat frying in the saucepan. Saddles, blankets, personal belongings of various kinds might be seen in or near the tents. It was, in fine, an Indian camp lifted from the mountains or plains of Arizona and transported intact to the narrow confines of Fort Marion. In most of the tents into which I glanced the women were busy with their needle-work, or making various articles for sale to the visitors who throng St. Augustine. They have realized quite a little sum of money by this means. Many of them spend much of their time over playing cards or other games of chance.

Colonel Langdon says of the Indian prisoners: "Not a single disturbance of any kind has occurred, nor has any Indian failed to comply with any special or general instructions given by me or the officer on duty."—October 1st, 1886.

The rations issued to the prisoners consist of beef, one pound

daily per capita to adults— $\frac{1}{2}$ pound to children twelve years of age and under—also bread, sugar, coffee and beans. Once a week, or once in ten days, they receive potatoes and onions in small quantities. Samuel Bowman informed me that the amount of rations issued to them in confinement is less than what they obtained on the reservation, where they were able to procure a considerable supply from hunting, and vegetable and fruit food from the mescal, various roots and seeds, and the prickly pear. People in confinement should be given a larger vegetable and fruit diet than these Indian prisoners are now supplied with. Especially as in the present instance, where they are in the transition stage from savagery to civilization, a larger vegetable and fruit diet is desirable. The rations are insufficient.*

The clothing of the Indians during the Winter has been totally insufficient and unsuitable. Most of them wore only the rags which they brought with them from Arizona. During cold days when, even at St. Augustine, great coats were necessary, the Indian children were obliged to keep within the tents for protection. Many of them had nothing to cover them but a calico slip. Dr. Horace Caruthers, a philanthropic citizen of St. Augustine, in view of the necessity, made application for relieving it to friends in the North, and finally, through the efforts of Senator Dawes, a requisition for clothing was granted by the Government. The clothing for the women and children, however, did not reach its destination until a week previous to the time of my visit. The men received an outfit in December.

I made careful inquiry as to the means employed to secure good drainage and the removal of refuse matter, (so important a consideration in a warm climate, and where so many persons are huddled together within a narrow space). The Sergeant on duty showed me one of the casemates, where a copious stream of water was introduced by which drainage was secured directly to the sea. But even this precaution, and the free and constant use of carbolic acid as a disinfectant, is not sufficient to prevent an unhealthy condition of affairs if the present large number of prisoners be continued in the fort during the approaching Summer. It is impossible to secure

*"The rations issued the Indians are of good quality, while the attending Surgeon reports the quantity sufficient, I desire to express the opinion that the rations should be larger."

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LOOMIS L. LANGDON,

October 1, 1886.

perfect cleanliness, for filth cannot be prevented from being absorbed by the sandy soil and highly porous coquina stone of which the fort is composed. The danger of contagious disease attacking these Indians and spreading from them to the inhabitants of St. Augustine is, in my judgment, a matter worthy of prompt and serious consideration.

THE COMMANDING OFFICER PROHIBITS INDISCRIMINATE VISITING TO
THE FORT.

General Ayres has very wisely prohibited indiscriminate visiting of strangers and tourists to the fort, where the object in view has been the gratification of idle curiosity; while permission to enter has been granted to clergymen, physicians and those persons from whose visits the prisoners might derive some direct and immediate, or ulterior advantage. The military authorities have doubtless been subjected to much annoyance by the importunities of unreasonable persons who failed to understand by what right the commanding officer denied them entrance to the fort.

Attempts have been made by some evil-disposed persons to introduce intoxicating liquors into the fort, so that it was necessary to post notices warning such offenders of the penalties of the law.

CONFINEMENT OF THE PRISONERS NOT RIGID.

The restrictions upon the Indians at Fort Marion have been as few and easy as possible. Women and children are constantly to be seen outside the fort, and parties of the men, under proper surveillance, frequently visit the town.

SAMUEL BOWMAN, INTERPRETER.

Samuel Bowman, the interpreter, a half-breed Indian of mixed Cherokee and white blood, deserves the thanks of good people for the faithful and efficient service which he has rendered the Government and these Indians during their confinement. He has been an important factor in their management, and in obviating difficulties and misunderstandings which are likely at any time to occur in dealing with a savage people who speak an unknown tongue. Samuel Bowman's face and demeanor accord fully with his reputation, which is that of an honest, good-tempered and sensible man. He has not yet been compensated for the expenses of his journey with the Indians from Arizona to the East. He expressed to me his intention of soon returning to Arizona—where

he has a wife—if the Indians are to be kept at Fort Marion. He should be induced to remain with them, as serious inconvenience is likely to result in the absence of an interpreter so thoroughly conversant with these Indians and showing so much tact in dealing with them.

I was told by both Lieutenant Conkling and Samuel Bowman that the behavior of the Indians since their imprisonment has been good, and that they have given no trouble.

GERONIMO AT FORT PICKENS.

Geronimo and 16 of his men are confined in Fort Pickens, on the West Coast of Florida. The wives and children of these men are in Fort Marion. *This separation is a direct violation of the terms on which Geronimo surrendered to General Miles.**

SUGGESTIONS IN CONCLUSION.

I.

It is manifest, from the facts adduced in this report, that some of the male adult Indians in Fort Marion who are confined there are guilty of no offence, and of others it may be truly said not alone that they are innocent, but that they have for some years past and up to the moment of their imprisonment, served the government faithfully as scouts (witness the case of Chatto), and have even rendered service of extraordinary value (witness the case of Martinez and Ki-e-ta, to whom we are largely indebted for the capture of Geronimo). To deprive such men of liberty and all opportunity of engaging in useful and remunerative work, and to immure them on the same footing with those who are fresh from the war-path, is a great hardship, and ought not to be continued longer than is unavoidable.

If the facts are as stated in this report, which is a matter for official investigation, prompt reparation should be made by the government to these Indians for the wrong inflicted upon them. They

*"They regarded the separation of themselves from their families as a violation of the terms of their treaty of surrender, by which they had been guaranteed in the most positive manner conceivable to their minds that they should be united to their families at Fort Marion. * * * * I feel compelled to say that my knowledge of the Indian character and experience I have had with Indians of all kinds and the corroborating circumstances and facts that have been brought to my notice in this particular case, convince me that the foregoing statement of Natchez and Geronimo is substantially correct."

Letter from Brigadier-General D. S. Stanley, San Antonio, Texas, October 27, 1886, to Adjutant-General of the Army.

should be compensated in money in all cases where it can be shown that their imprisonment has inflicted upon them a financial loss. They should, if not returned to their homes in Arizona, be placed with their families under the care of an experienced military officer upon a reservation where they can be trained more completely in civilized habits and where they can acquire permanent farms and homes.

II.

Chihuahua and certain other Indians at Fort Marion should be classed separately from Chatto, Martinez, Ki-e-ta and other peaceable Indians. They have recently been upon the war-path and have been guilty of outrages; they have been therefore justly punished by imprisonment. But they should not be deprived of hope. They should be given an opportunity to work and to reap some reward from labor. They should be taught that it is possible for them, by good behavior and industry, to redeem their past record. They, too, should be placed under the care of a carefully chosen military officer on a suitable reservation either with their more advanced brethren or separate from them. If it be found more convenient and advisable to place them on the same reservation with Chatto and others, they should be made clearly to understand by suitable restrictions, the very marked difference existing between the innocent and the guilty. These restrictions could be gradually removed in cases where the Indians showed themselves worthy of increased liberty. The public should carefully note in relation to this suggestion that there is not the same degree of moral guilt attached even to the worst of these Indians that we attribute to our own criminals; nor is the hope of their amendment and development of good character in them, their complete conversion to christianity and civilization, ill-founded and foolish. Those who assert that such a claim is extravagant should consider the results of Captain Pratt's experiment at Fort Marion, in 1875, by which men who had been taken red-handed from the war-path were successfully reclaimed. The bare facts of this case seem, to a superficial observer, almost incredible. But it must be remembered that the savage makes war in a manner revolting to a civilized mind, but according to a standard which to him is reasonable and just. In committing acts of extreme cruelty he has no sense of a violation of the proprieties of war. The Indian in his

natural state acts in conformity with this low standard, but when he is taught a higher law, and when the public sentiment of savagery no longer controls him, he undergoes a change of opinion and gradually of character which is not vague and tentative, but surprisingly radical. The severest critics of Indian customs and practices are often found among the Indians themselves who through christianity and civilization have broken loose from former bondage and have come to be ashamed of and despise things in which they once indulged without restraint. I am personally cognizant of many such cases. Fact and not fancy is the ground of hope with those who advocate intelligent and humane methods of treatment for even the worst of these Indians. In the present case, I believe the appointment of a man of experience and efficiency to care for and control these Indians, wherever it may be decided to place them, is absolutely essential to their welfare and to the success of this experiment.

REASONS FOR ADVOCATING APPOINTMENT OF A MILITARY OFFICER
TO GUIDE AND CONTROL THESE INDIANS.

I have suggested that a carefully selected military officer should be entrusted with this work, not because an equally good civil agent could not be found, but because we have no reason to believe that he *will* be found. Under present conditions the appointment of a civil agent to meet some partisan demand of place-hunters is by no means improbable, and thus an unfit person might be selected. Under such circumstances complete and dismal failure will be the result. Not every military officer is, of course, suited to this task, for in the Army is found the same variety of character and adaptation to a given work that exists in other professions. But, notwithstanding, little difficulty need be experienced in making selection of a suitable man in whom a knowledge of Indians, sympathy for them, and interest in their civilization, efficient business methods and force of character displayed in their management are combined. A man of the type of Captain R. H. Pratt, the late Captain Emmet Crawford, Captain John G. Bourke, Captain J. M. Lee and Captain James M. Bell is what is needed. A military officer can afford to speak the truth, to do what is wise and right without sacrificing his position. His pay and place are secure.

No wiser course of action could be adopted by the authorities in Washington, relative to the disposition of these prisoners, than to

avail themselves of the valuable experience of three men, whose knowledge of Indians, tact in dealing with them, freedom from sentimentality, and deep sympathy in their welfare, entitle them to be considered as wise counsellors in such a question—General Crook, General Miles, and Captain Pratt, Superintendent of Carlisle Training School. By the suggestions of these distinguished officers, were their opinions called for, the best practical wisdom might be attained.

III.

The women and very young children imprisoned at Fort Marion should all be removed and placed on the same reservation that may be selected for their husbands and fathers—the adult males of the Chiricahua Apaches—and Christian women of tact and discretion should be encouraged to carry on educational work among them.

Suitable food in sufficient quantities should be supplied them. They at present have insufficient vegetable diet, and are entirely without any fruit diet, excepting an occasional orange or banana given them by a visitor or such as they may purchase for themselves. If placed on farming lands, as of course they should be, with their progress toward self-support, Government rations issued to them should be gradually decreased and finally wholly withdrawn.

Those Chiricahua Apache children who are now at Carlisle should in every way be encouraged to remain, and their parents, where these are still living, should be shown that this course is in the best interests of their children. There is no better place for them than Carlisle.

In the event of the removal of the prisoners from Fort Marion which, as I have said, I hold should be immediately accomplished, it would be wise to allow those children at present under the care of the Roman Catholic Sisters of St. Joseph to remain with them, provided the consent of their parents can be obtained, and there may be convenient accommodations for boarding them. Otherwise they should accompany their parents to their new homes, and some other representatives of the Roman Catholic Church should be allowed to continue and to develop the work they have so well begun.

IV.

I cannot conclude this report better than by pointing the attention of the public to what, in my opinion, is the most conspicuous

fact contained in the foregoing pages—the injustice with which the good behavior, the fidelity and, in some instances, the distinguished services of these imprisoned Chiricahua Indians have been rewarded by the government of the United States. I hold that in this case a fundamental principle of just and wise policy in the treatment of Indians, has been violated, for not only have the innocent been condemned unheard, but the meritorious have received the punishment of the guilty.* We can deal with Indians successfully only when we convince them that they are to be held to responsibility for their acts as individuals; that our performance shall be as good as our word, and that a safe path shall open to civilization for such as choose to walk in it. In this instance we have followed the reverse course, and have taught the Indians in emphatic and unmistakable terms that well-doing on their part will insure to them from the Government neither reward nor protection nor the maintenance of good faith. Having held the name "Apache" a synonym for treachery and cruelty, we, on our part, have dealt with those members of the tribe who have shown themselves better than their name, in a spirit almost as unjust and unreasoning as that of the savage himself, and in a manner certainly unbecoming the honor and wisdom of a great nation; doubtless this was done under misapprehension of the facts. Just where responsibility for the management of this affair should rest I do not pretend to say. I state facts and my own conclusions. It may be urged, in the defence of the Government's action, that the removal of these Indians was a war measure, fully justified by exigencies of the situation; that the people of New Mexico and Arizona, in view of the awful devastation and hideous outrages wrought by Geronimo and his hostiles, were justified in demanding the removal of every member of the Chiricahua Apache tribe from their midst, and that the necessity for prompt and radical measures forbade any discrimination as to the guilt or innocence of individuals; that although Chatto was promised, upon the occasion of his visit to Washington, a safe return to his reservation, yet that it was found inexpedient to permit him to return, as the authorities feared he would use his in-

* Under date of March 28th, the Agent of the Indian Rights Association at Washington reports: "I saw the President last Saturday. He merely said in regard to the Apache Prisoners that there was not time to separate the guilty from the innocent ones before taking them down there. There was an urgency about it that did not admit of delay. He did not think there was such a crowded condition as to endanger health. * * * He said he meant to inquire into the matter."

fluence to hinder the removal of his people. Even admitting for the moment and for argument that discrimination at the time was impracticable, *why, after the removal of the Chiricahuas from Arizona was effected, were five months suffered to elapse* and nothing done to separate the innocent from the guilty, and to make restitution for any temporary injustice that might have been inflicted? Why immure Chatto and men, who, like him, were innocent, within prison walls, deprived of any opportunity to farm, to learn trades or engage in any useful or remunerative occupation? Why these long months of enforced idleness for men strong of wit and of sinew, who most complain that they have nothing to do? The plea of the fortunes of war and military necessity supplies no sufficient answer to this question. There has been time and to spare for full investigation by the authorities of this matter and for the adoption of wise and comprehensive measures for the welfare of these people.

But can it be fairly claimed that military necessity, at any moment in the history of this affair, required the removal and imprisonment of the Chiricahua scouts? Has experience shown that the employment of these Indians as auxiliaries by our troops has been attended with unsatisfactory results, from a military point of view? Or did the military judgment of those distinguished officers, Generals Crook and Miles, who are most intimately acquainted with the service performed by such men as Chatto, Martinez and Ki-e-ta, counsel their abduction and confinement? Could the regular troops in Arizona afford the loss of men who, if I have properly stated the facts, have proved themselves such useful allies? I am but a civilian, and can claim no special knowledge of military matters, but I hazard the assertion that the surrender of Geronimo in the recent campaign was accomplished in a large measure by the courage, devotion and skillful diplomacy of the Chiricahua Apache scouts, Martinez and Ki-e-ta, and that practically no headway was made in the efforts of the troops to destroy or capture Geronimo, except by the assistance of these auxiliaries. Very valuable indirect testimony is given to the military value of the Chiricahua scouts by no less an authority than Lieutenant-General Sheridan, in his annual report for 1886, where he states "that but for the unfortunate assassination of Captain Crawford by Mexican troops, that officer would have terminated the cruel and bloodthirsty atrocities

which continued thereafter for many months." Captain Crawford's command was composed wholly of Indian scouts. The testimony of General Crook, in this connection, is especially pertinent and valuable, for no officer in the service has had longer or more intimate experience with the Apache Indians than he. He says: "Nearly eight years of my life have been spent in Arizona, and much of that time in actual hostilities with Apache Indians. I am therefore entitled to speak from the knowledge gained through experience, and I cannot too strongly assert, that there has never been any success in operations against these Indians, unless Indian scouts were used either as auxiliaries or independent of other support. Regular troops have always failed on our side of the boundary line, and any apparent success in Mexican operations has been attained by the grossest treachery, the effect of which has been to make the Indians, if possible, even more suspicious and savage than before, and to infuriate them to fresh outrages.

"I assert, moreover, without reserve or qualification of any nature, that these Chiricahua scouts, under Chiefs Chatto, Noche and others, did most excellent service, and were of more value in hunting down and compelling the surrender of the renegades than all other troops engaged in operations against them combined."

In conclusion, I ask, on behalf of the Indian Rights Association, a pertinent and serious question of the high-minded and thoughtful people of the country. In view of the facts contained in this report, has not the time come when the Government of the United States should adopt and carry out an Indian policy which shall mete out to the Indian exact and individual justice, which shall punish the guilty and protect the innocent, giving to all the protection of law and the advantages of education? Should not men and means commensurate to the largeness and importance of this work be given by the nation to the solution of the problem? Men should be chosen for the direction of the Government's Indian policy, and for the administration of that policy in all its details, not on the basis of partisan service and of political expediency, but because by reason of their mental and moral capacity, their knowledge of the Indians, their acquaintance with business methods, and their zeal for the progress of civilization they are fitted to assume the responsibilities of this task. The interests of national honor and economy require the adoption of some comprehensive plan and the choice of

suitable men for its execution. No such plan is at present in operation. Political partisanship still casts its blight over the whole Indian service, paralyzing the efforts of those who are hoping and struggling for better things. Many Indian agents and their subordinates are not removed or retained on the ground of merit, but for partisan reasons. Not more than a third of the total number of Indian children are in school, no adequate instruction in farming and other civilized pursuits is yet given to adult Indians.

A great advance in legislation was accomplished in the recent passage of Senator Dawes' Land in Severalty bill, by which individual tenure of land, protection of law and citizenship are made possible for the Indians. But what guarantee exists that good men will be chosen to carry out the wise and beneficent provisions of this law, so that in the process of allotment good land will be given to the Indians on which to locate their farms and homes?

The official blundering, the long and unnecessary delay in the management of the Apache business is but an instance of the general incoherence and inefficiency which have usually distinguished the administration of Indian affairs. It is a subject for the consideration of intelligent, public-spirited and patriotic Americans; for only by the systematic and organized efforts of such persons can the evils of which we justly complain be remedied. Constant and thorough investigation of the facts of the question must be conducted by wise and disinterested men. From facts, conclusions must be prudently arrived at. Conclusions thus reached must be supported by the power of popular sentiment and then urged upon the officers of the government, whose duty it is to execute the will of those whom they represent, and who have entrusted them with power. It is by creating a powerful constituency for the Indians that their full civil, religious and educational rights shall at last be secured.

APPENDIX.

April 5th, 1887.

The following extracts from the official correspondence between the authorities at Washington and General Miles, relative to the surrender of Geronimo, the transfer of the peaceable Chiricahua Apaches from the San Carlos Reservation to Fort Marion, and the imprisonment of the Chatto delegation at the same place, are taken from Executive Document No. 117, 49th Congress, 2d Session, Senate. This correspondence was published February 28th, 1887, in compliance with a resolution of the Senate asking for the same. A careful inspection of the quotations submitted below will, I feel assured, both repay the reader and establish the truth of several important assertions made in the foregoing report.

The Indians referred to in the first part of the following dispatch were Chatto and his delegation, who visited Washington last Summer, at the invitation of the Government, to confer with the authorities regarding "some permanent arrangement for their future."

(Telegram.)

PROSPECT HOUSE NEW YORK, *August 23d, 1886.*

General R. C. DRUM,

Acting Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

While some deference should be paid to the opinions of General Miles, I do not think these Indians should be treated otherwise than as prisoners of war, as it is quite certain they do not agree with the Government as to their location, which I am satisfied should be Fort Marion ; and since we are informed that their removal can now be successfully accomplished, I think it should be done at once, and that the state of feeling reported as existing among them at Fort Leavenworth justifies us in preventing the return of any of them to the reservation. I hope nothing will be done with Geronimo which will prevent our treating him as a prisoner of war, if we

cannot hang him, which I would much prefer. Consult Lamar and Sheridan, and if they agree with these views transmit them to General Miles.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

(Indorsement of foregoing telegram.)

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

August 24, 1887.

I concur fully with the views expressed by the President.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

My recommendations as to the proper disposition to be made of the prisoners at Fort Marion agree in all essential particulars with General Miles proposition, as stated in the following telegram. This was not seen by me until my suggestions were in print. Although the Indians signed a paper of agreement to General Miles' plan the authorities did not allow it to be carried out.

(Telegram.)

WILCOX, ARIZ., August 28, 1886.

Adjutant-General DRUM,

Acting Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch conveying the President's telegram received. Please transmit following reply: Apaches have, on paper, been regarded as prisoners of war, but never disarmed nor dismounted. If they believe the published reports that they are to be banished to sickly Florida with those more recently hostiles, their removal over a mountainous and timbered country will be most difficult if not impracticable. *They agree to go to such place as I might designate. My purpose was, if the Government approved, to move them at least 1200 miles east, completely disarm them, send their stock, for the winter at least, to Fort Union, New Mexico, scatter the grown children through the industrial schools of the country, and hold the balance at one or two military posts, where they would acquire habits of industry, until such time as the Government should provide them permanent residence and means of self-support.* By this means they would be completely under control, they would be satisfied, and the

people relieved of their presence without loss of life. Geronimo has been notified that he can surrender, but subject to the disposition of the Government,

With much respect,

(Italics mine—H. W.) NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, U. S. A.

(Telegram.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SALEM, MASS., *September 11, 1886.*

General R. C. DRUM,

Washington, D. C.:

Your two telegrams of yesterday received last evening. I was absent during the day. Your orders to hold Geronimo and others of his band in close custody until the final disposition of them, as determined by the President, is approved. Of course General Stanley has ample means to keep them. I think that Chatto and those with him should be sent on to Fort Marion. Your letter of the 7th just received. I notice you say in it I presume there can be no objection to holding Geronimo and others subject to civil authorities. I should not even mention that they may be delivered to the civil authorities, and do and say nothing in the matter till that question is finally decided. Yours of the 9th just received, containing the President's dispatch about their custody; also General Miles acknowledgment of the telegram.

W. C. ENDICOTT,
Secretary of War.

It will be seen from following dispatches that the separation of Geronimo and his men from their families was contrary to the terms on which he surrendered:

(Telegram.)

PRESIDIO, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., *September 24, 1886.*

The PRESIDENT,

(Through the Acting Secretary of War),

Washington, D. C.:

* * * * *

I believed at first from official reports that the surrender was unconditional, except that the troops themselves would not kill the hostiles. Now, from General Miles' dispatches, and from his an-

nual report, forwarded on the 31st instant by mail, the conditions are plain ; first, that the lives of all the Indians should be spared ; second, that they should be sent to *Fort Marion, Florida, where their tribe, including their families, had already been ordered.*

A dispatch just received from General Miles, and forwarded by mail, is lengthy, but adds no facts with regard to the terms of the surrender of the hostile Apaches to him.

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

(Telegram.)

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., *September 30, 1886.*

General K. C. DRUM,

Acting Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch received. In obedience to your instructions, I examined Geronimo and Natchez to-day, separately, and this without raising their suspicions ; Captain Lancaster, commanding the post, being present. Both chiefs said they never thought of surrender until Lieutenant Gatewood, Interpreter George Wratten, and the two scouts came to them and said the Great Father wanted them to surrender ; that they believed this, but did not believe Crook, because he talked ugly to them, and that they thought he would put them under Chatto, and that when Geronimo met Miles at Skeleton Canon, the latter said : "Lay down your arms and come with me to Fort Bowie, and in five days you will see your families, now in Florida with Chihuahua, and no harm will be done you ; that when Natchez came, Miles said the same thing to him and his young men ; that Geronimo and Natchez went with Miles to Fort Bowie ; that the latter said : "We are still brothers ; don't fear any one, no one will harm you ; you will meet all the Chiricahuas ; leave your horses here, maybe they will be sent to you ; you will have a separate reservation with your tribe, with horses and wagons, and no one will hurt you ;" that Miles talked very friendly to us, and that we believed him as we would God ; that we did not surrender sooner because we did not think we would be allowed to do so ; *that Miles again said that we would see our families in five days*, and no harm would befall us. These families are now anxious to go to Florida. George Wratten confirms this report of Miles' talk with Geronimo and Natchez at Fort Bowie. Lieutenant Clay and Dr. Wood, when at San Antonio, stated to me that to

their knowledge promises were made to these Indians that their lives should be spared.

STANLEY,
Department Commander.

(Telegram.)

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., *October 1, 1886.*

General R. C. DRUM,

Acting Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

In my interview with Geronimo yesterday he, upon clearing a piece of ground with the back of his hand, said: "At Fort Bowie General Miles did thus, said everything you have done up to this time will be wiped out like that and forgotten, and you will begin a new life." This inadvertently omitted from my dispatch of yesterday, and is now forwarded to supplement it.

STANLEY,
Department Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT, TEXAS.

San Antonio, Texas, October 27, 1886.

The ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY,

Through Headquarters Division of the Missouri:

Sir: Pursuant to instructions contained in telegram from Headquarters, Division of the Missouri, dated October 20, 1886, the Apache prisoners confined at this place were forwarded to Fort Pickens and Fort Marion, Florida, on Friday October 22, 1886, which was the earliest date that suitable transportation could be prepared.

I deferred informing the Indians of the exact disposition that was to be made of them until a few hours before their departure.

Geronimo and Natchez requested an interview with me when they first ascertained that they were to leave here, and in talking to them, I told them of the exact disposition that was to be made of them. They regarded the separation of themselves from their families as a violation of the terms of their treaty surrender, by which they had been guaranteed in the most positive manner conceivable to their minds that they should be united with their families at Fort Marion.

There were present at the talk they had with me, Major J. P. Wright, Surgeon U. S. A., Captain J. G. Ballance, Act. Judge-Adv. U. S. A., George Wratten, the interpreter, Natchez and Geronimo.

The Indians were separated from their families at this place. The women, children and the two scouts were placed in a separate car before they left.

In this interview with me they related the following incident which they regard as an essential part of their treaty surrender and which took place at Skeleton Canon before they had, as a band, made up their minds to surrender, and before any of them, except perhaps Geronimo, had given up their arms, and when they were still fully able to escape and defend themselves.

General Miles said to them : " You go with me to Fort Bowie and at a certain time you will go to see your relatives in Florida." After they went to Fort Bowie, he reassured them that they would see their relatives in Florida in four and a half or five days. While at Skeleton Canon, General Miles said to them : " I have come to have a talk with you." The conversation was interpreted from English into Spanish and from Spanish into Apache and vice versa.

The interpreting from English into Spanish was done by a man of the name of Nelson. The interpreting from Spanish into Apache was done by Jose Maria Yaskes. Jose Maria Montoya was also present, but he did not do any of the interpreting. Dr. Wood, United States Army, and Lieutenant Clay, 10th Infantry, were present.

General Miles drew a line on the ground and said : " This represents the ocean," and, putting a small rock beside the line, he said : " this represents the place where Chihuahua is with his band." He then picked up another stone and placed it a short distance from the first and said : " This represents you, Geronimo." He then picked up a small stone and placed it a little distance from the others and said : " This represents the Indians at Camp Apache. The President wants to take you and put you with Chihuahua." He then picked up the stone which represented Geronimo and his band and put it beside the one which represented Chihuahua at Fort Marion. After doing this, he picked up the stone which represented the Indians at Camp Apache and placed it beside the other two stones which represented Geronimo and Chihuahua at Fort Marion and said : " that is what the President wants to do—get all of you together."

After their arrival at Fort Bowie, General Miles said to them : " from now on we want to begin a new life," and holding up one

of his hands with the palm open, and horizontal, he marked lines across it with the finger of the other hand and said, pointing to the open palm: "This represents the past, it is all covered with hollows and ridges," then rubbing his other palm over it, he said: "that represents the wiping out of the past which will be considered smooth and forgotten."

The interpreter, *Wratten*, says that he was present and heard the conversation. The Indians say that Captain Thompson, 4th Cavalry, was also present. Natchez said that Captain Thompson, who was the acting Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Arizona, told him, at his house in Fort Bowie, "don't be afraid, no harm shall come to you. You will go to your families all right. He also told them, "that Fort Marion is not a very large place, and is not probably large enough for all, and that probably in six months or so you will be put in a larger place where you can do better."

He told them the same thing when they took their departure in the cars for Fort Bowie.

The idea that they had of the treaty surrender given in this letter is forwarded at their desire, and, while not desiring to comment on the matter, I feel compelled to say that my knowledge of the Indian character and experience I have had with Indians of all kinds, and the corroborating circumstances and facts that have been brought to my notice in this particular case convinces me that the foregoing statement of Natchez and Geronimo is substantially correct.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

D. L. STANLEY,

Brigadier General, Commanding.

War Department received November 8, 1886.

* * * * *

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant General of the Army, by Major-General Alfred H. Terry, Chicago, November 2, 1886.

* * * * *

War Department, November 18, 1886. Seen by the Secretary of War.

(Signed)

WM. E. ENDICOTT,

(Copy.)

Secretary of War.

(Telegram.)

WHIPPLE BARRACKS, ARIZONA, *September 24, 1886.*

ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Division of the Pacific, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal. :

* * * * *

During the two days of truce, while this matter was being considered, Lieutenant Mercer met two of the Indian women belonging to the hostiles' camp and informed them that if they and their people desired to give up they could surrender to the American troops, and when the hostiles withdrew from the vicinity of Fronteras, closely followed by Lawton's command, communication was opened, through means of the two men above referred to, with Lieutenant Gatewood. They were sent forward with a demand for the surrender of the camp. This resulted in the meeting when Lieutenant Gatewood rode boldly into their presence at the risk of his life and repeated the demand for their surrender. They refused to surrender at once, but they desired to see Captain Lawton, who had pursued them with great pertinacity. Captain Lawton granted the interview, but the Indians asked similar terms and privileges to what they had been given before, and, through the interpreters, sent me two messages and made most urgent appeals to see the department commander. I replied to Captain Lawton that their request could not be granted, and that he was fully authorized to receive their surrender as prisoners of war to the troops in the field. They were told that the troops were brave and honest men, and that if they threw down their arms and placed themselves at the mercy of the officers they would not be murdered. They promised to surrender to me in person, and for eleven days Captain Lawton's command moved north, Geronimo's and Natchez's camp moving parallel, and frequently camping near it. * * * * *

MILES, *Commanding.*

(Telegram.)

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, *September 29, 1886.*

The Acting SECRETARY OF WAR,

Washington, D. C.

* * * * *

In substance, the conversations and communications of myself and Geronimo, Natchez, and others before their surrender, and heretofore given in my report are as follows :

Learning of their crippled condition, in the early part of July, I started two men for the hostile camp to demand their surrender. At that time I had not the least idea of any intimation that the hostile Indians who surrendered to my troops would, in any marked degree, be treated differently from those who have surrendered to others than myself in other parts of the country. When the hostiles withdrew from the vicinity of the Mexican town Fronteras, closely followed by Lawton's command, the two men above referred to went into their camp and demanded their surrender; they refused at first, but desired to see Captain Lawton, who granted them the interview. The Indians asked similar terms and privileges to what they had been given before. I informed Captain Lawton by Heliograph that their request could not be granted, but that he was authorized to accept their surrender as prisoners of war to the troops in the field. They then promised to surrender to me in person, and to this end, at the request of Captain Lawton, I joined his command. Geronimo came to me and recounted his grievances. I informed him that Captain Lawton and Lieutenant Gatewood were honorable, and that I was there to confirm what they had said to them, and that if they threw down their arms and placed themselves entirely at our mercy, they would not be killed, but that they must surrender absolutely as prisoners of war and rely upon the justice of the Government or trust their future to the President of the United States. I informed them that I was removing all the Chiricahua and Warm Spring Indians from Arizona, and that they would all be removed from this country at once and for all time, and this they understood. Geronimo replied that he would obey any order I might give and go to any place, and that he would bring in his camp, which he did. Natchez subsequently surrendered his camp in the same way.

Their status is the same as that of Chief Joseph, Sitting Bull, and hundreds of others; they are strictly prisoners of war, the result of the skill and fortitude of our troops.

* * * * *

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

The two scouts, whose names appear in the following telegram—Martinez and Ki-e-ta—are the men who, at the risk of their lives, went into Geronimo's camp and secured his surrender:

(Telegram.)

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., *October 11, 1886.*

ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Washington:

* * * * *

With these Indians are two enlisted scouts—*Keyehteh*, about thirty-eight; *Martine*, about twenty-seven. *Character of both good.* Wives of both in Florida.

STANLEY,

(Italics mine—H. W.)

Department Commander.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington City, October 19, 1886.

Sir :

* * * * *

The remainder of the band captured at the same time, consisting of eleven women, six children, *and two enlisted scouts, you are to send to Fort Marion, Florida, and place with the other Apache Indians recently conveyed to and now under custody at that post.*

You will see that all details and arrangements are made for the prompt and efficient execution of this order.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. C. ENDICOTT,

Secretary of War.

Lieutenant General P. H. SHERIDAN,

United States Army :

(Italics mine, H. W.)

It will be seen from the accompanying dispatches that the imprisonment of Martinez and Ki-e-ta was fully concurred in by the Hon. Secretaries of War and Interior, and by the Lieutenant General.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, October 20, 1886.

Sir :

* * * * *

The remainder of the band captured at the same time, consisting of eleven women, six children, *and two enlisted scouts, you are to send to Fort Marion, Florida, and place with the other Apache Indians recently conveyed to and now under custody at that post.*

(3)

I have the honor to inform you that the present disposition thus made of these captured Indians meets with my concurrence.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

L. Q. C. LAMAR,

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

Secretary.

The following dispatch shows that Ki-e-ta and Martinez were considered as scouts until the moment of their incarceration :

(Telegram.)

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C., October 20, 1886.

General L. M. SCHOFIELD,

Governor's Island, N. Y. Harbor :

* * * * *

The Indian women and children at San Antonio, and *two Indian scouts*, nineteen in all, *are ordered to Fort Marion, to be held under the same conditions as the other prisoners there. The two scouts will be discharged from the service, but remain with their tribes.*

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
San Antonio, Tex., October 27, 1886.

Sir: Pursuant to instructions contained in telegram from Headquarters Division of Missouri, dated October 20, 1886, the Apache Indians confined at this place were forwarded to Fort Pickens and Fort Marion, Florida, on Friday, October 22, 1886, which was the earliest date that suitable transportation could be procured. I deferred informing the Indians of the exact disposition that was to be made of them until a few hours before their departure.

* * * * *

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. S. STANLEY,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY,

(Through headquarters Division of the Missouri.)

It will be seen from the following dispatch that General Miles on the ground of humanity deprecates the retention even of the *hostile* Indians in Florida :

FORT APACHE, ARIZONA, *July 7, 1886.*

Sir:

* * * * *

After fully considering the subject in all its bearings, and, with Mr. Lamar, of the Interior Department, personally examining their condition, I believe they can be moved away from the mountain regions of Arizona and New Mexico and placed within the control of the Government, where they will no longer be a disturbing element, or a menace to the scattered settlements. *To do this with their consent would be most advisable and desirable, and after visiting their camps and talking with their leaders I have induced eleven of the principal men to go to Washington, under charge of Captain Dorst, Fourth United States Cavalry, to see the authorities and learn what the Government would do for them, and what it would expect them to do, and to see any lands that the Government can grant them. I presume it is not the purpose of the Government to keep permanently the seventy-two Apaches, mostly women and children, in Florida, where they were recently sent. They are a mountain race, accustomed to high latitudes, and would in a short time, most likely, die, if kept in the lowlands of Florida. Should the Apaches in Arizona and Florida be permanently located in some place healthful and suited to their natural requirements, I believe the hostile element would surrender. They have several times evinced a disposition to do so; but if not, they could soon be overcome.*

* * * * *

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,

Brigadier-General, U. S. A.

THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

(Italics mine—H. W.)

Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.

(Telegram.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *July 31, 1886.*

General NELSON A. MILES,

Wilcox, Arizona:

The proposition to remove the Chiricahua and Warm Springs Indians to any reservation or military post west of the Missouri River cannot be entertained.

The President wishes me to ask what you think of the proposition to *forcibly arrest all on the reservation and send them to Fort Marion, Florida, where they can be joined by the party now here.*

P. H. SHERIDAN,

(Italics mine.)

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA,

WILCOX, ARIZONA, *August 2, 1886.*

GENERAL: In answer to your inquiry as to the advisability of forcibly removing the Chiricahua and Warm Springs Indians now on the military reservation of Fort Apache, together with the delegation from these tribes now in Washington, to Fort Marion, Florida, I have the honor to reply that the advantages and objections appear to me as follows: First. It would be a great relief to the citizens of Arizona to know that they were all out of this mountainous country, and it would avoid trouble with those tribes in future. Second. It would relieve a strong force of troops that are now keeping watch over them or guarding the settlements against any outbreaks. If relieved the troops could occupy the Mexican frontier or be available for any service.

The objections to the measure appear to be *serious*. First. *As the delegation went to Washington by authority of the Government with a view of making some permanent arrangement for their future, I fear it would be charged that the Government had taken advantage of them, and believe the Indians would consider it an act of bad faith.* Second. *It would be known by all other Indian tribes in the Southwest, and they might in future hesitate about sending any of their number to Washington, even at the request of the Government.* Third. *I think it would necessitate a war of extermination against those that are down in Old Mexico, for if banishment were the fate of those that have been peaceable they would expect theirs to be much worse, and I think all would have to be killed before any more would surrender.*

The difficulty of dealing with those Indians, I believe, has arisen from hostile feeling excited toward them since they arrived in Washington. They are wild, suspicious Indians, and their confidence is easily broken.

Although attached to their native country, I believe before leaving Fort Apache they were prepared to make any fair and reasonable arrangement to conform to the wishes of the Government, and

still think their confidence can be restored by the means suggested in my telegram of yesterday.

The charge that Chatto, the leading spirit and bravest of the tribes, has committed serious crimes, is undoubtedly true, as it is of every other representative of the wild Indians that has appeared in Washington from the days of Red Jacket to the present time. That he was present or concerned in the murder of Judge McComas and family is a matter of some doubt, as he is said to have been in another place at that time. This is not a local, county, or Territorial affair; the Government has assumed the responsibility of dealing with them, and has had them under punishment ever since war was commenced on the tribes as a body, and it appears to me that the Government is fully justified and warranted in making final disposition of them as wards of the nation, as it has of every other tribe.

* * * * *

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieutenant-General SHERIDAN,

Commanding the Army, Washington, D. C.

The following telegram shows that in the opinion of Lieutenant-Colonel Langdon, commanding Fort Marion, *the fort could properly accomodate only 150 persons as prisoners.*

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON CITY, *August 24, 1886.*

SIR: Seeing that Fort Marion appeared to be agreed upon as the place at which to hold the Apaches on their capture or surrender as prisoners of war, and having no data here from which to judge of its capacity, etc., I sent the following telegram to the commanding officer at St. Augustine, Florida:

“What number of Indians—men, women and children—can, in addition to the now number at St. Augustine, be accommodated there? Should it be determined to increase the number by some four or five hundred, what preparation would be necessary and what probable expenditure required?”

In reply I received the following:

“Can accomodate seventy-five men, women and children in addition to those now here. Fort Marion is a small place; all must

live in tents. Have tentage by taking battery tents. Need no particular preparation, but will have to expend \$200 for additional tent floor, privies and lavatories. *Would recommend no more Indians be sent here. More details by mail.*"

Very respectfully,

R. C. DRUM,
Acting Secretary of War.

THE LIEUTENANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY.

(Telegram.)

WILCOX, ARIZONA, August 29, 1886.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Washington, D. C.

I understand that Captain Dorst was turned back from Emporia, Kansas, yesterday. *As I gave my word that the Apaches would meet some of their friends at Albuquerque or Holbrook*, I ask that Captain Dorst be directed to start at once with four or six Indians and await orders at Albuquerque.

MILES,
Commanding.

(Italics mine—H. W.)

[Indorsement on foregoing.]

Respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of War Disapproved.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

Washington, Aug. 30, 1886.

(Telegram.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, August 29, 1886.

General NELSON A. MILES,

Commanding Department of Arizona, Prescott, Arizona :

The Lieutenant-General having expressed the opinion that none of the Apache Indians at Fort Leavenworth should be permitted to go to Arizona, the orders to send some to Wilcox and others to Holbrook, Arizona, have been suspended, and the Indians will remain at Leavenworth until further orders.

R. C. DRUM,
Acting Secretary of War.

DISPATCH IN THE "N. Y. TIMES," MARCH 22, 1886.

"Corresponding Secretary Herbert Welsh, of the Indian Rights Association, has put forth some remarkable statements in a report of his recent visit to the Chiricahua Apache Indians, now confined at Fort Marion, Florida, and the Government officers, who know the facts, regard the assertions as not calculated to increase Mr. Welsh's reputation for accuracy. According to Secretary Welsh, Chatto and fourteen other Apaches, who are among the prisoners at Fort Marion, are the victims of bad faith on the part of Secretary of the Interior, Lamar. Chatto, Mr. Welsh declares, was induced to come to Washington to talk about the removal of his people from the San Carlos Reservation, in Arizona, to some other reservation, was started on his return to Arizona, and was suddenly switched off and taken to Fort Marion without a word of warning. It is also declared, in effect, that pains were taken to make Chatto believe that he was not only to go back to his reservation, but that he was to have all the farming implements he wanted sent to him there. Chatto was induced to come here to talk about a removal from Fort Apache, and that, according to the Interior Department officers, is about the only fact correctly stated in Mr. Welsh's report. There was an imperative demand from the people of Arizona that the Apaches should be removed, as they were bad Indians, likely to go on the warpath at any time, and their presence was a constant menace to the lives and security of the people. The authorities of the War and Interior Departments agreed that the savages ought to be sent out of the Territory, and they hoped to get the consent of Chatto to leave. At the request of General Miles, Mr. L. Q. C. Lamar, Jr., the Secretary's son, was sent as a special agent to Chatto to request him to visit Washington. Chatto came with fourteen of his band. He did not want to leave the San Carlos Reservation, and Secretary Lamar was unable to induce him to consent to do so. At every interview the Indian protested against leaving, although he was assured that he would be well taken care of on some other reservation. The Secretary told Chatto very plainly that he and his fellow Apaches were regarded as bad Indians by the people of Arizona, and that they insisted upon his leaving. Finally, Mr. Lamar gave up the attempt to gain Chatto's consent to a removal, and the Indians were turned over to the War Department, under whose control they properly belonged,

as they were virtually prisoners of war. They were allowed to return by way of Carlisle, where the children of some of the braves were at school. When the party reached Leavenworth, Chatto learned that warrants had been taken out against himself and a lot of his band by the civil authorities of Arizona, who proposed to punish the Indians for their depredations. Then Chatto declared that he did not want to go back to Fort Apache, and, with his consent, the Indians were taken to Fort Marion. Officers of the Government find it difficult to see in these transactions the shameful injustice Mr. Welsh talks about. Chatto is known to be a blood-thirsty murderer, and no injustice would have been done to him if he had been hanged or shot, in either of which events the people of Arizona would have properly rejoiced; but in reality he was taken to Fort Marion by his own consent, and is now being well taken care of at the expense of the Government."

The above Washington dispatch to the *New York Times*, asserting the incorrectness of my report, I print in full for the information of my readers. The following reply to this assault was sent to the *Times* immediately after the Washington dispatch was published. As my answer has not yet appeared,* I print it here:

March 22, 1887.

To the Editor of the *New York Times*:

DEAR SIR: In this morning's issue of the *Times*, in the Washington dispatches, certain statements appear under the caption "An unfounded charge against Mr. Lamar." To these statements I ask an opportunity for a reply in your columns. It is stated in the paragraph referred to that in a recent report regarding the Chiricahua Apache Indians now confined at Fort Marion, St. Augustine, Florida, I "have put forth some rather remarkable statements," and that "Government officers who know the facts regard the assertions as not calculated to increase Mr. Welsh's reputation for accuracy. According to Secretary Welsh, Chatto and fourteen other Apaches were among the victims of bad faith on the part of the Secretary of the Interior, Lamar." The above statement is wholly unwarranted, as, although I do claim that Chatto and other Indians at Fort Marion have been unjustly imprisoned and are the victims of

*Since writing the above, long editorials have appeared in the "Times" stating my position in the matter fully and fairly—H. W.

bad faith, I have nowhere in my report endeavored to place responsibility for these results upon the Secretary of the Interior, or any other officer of the Government. I have not attempted to say just where responsibility rests in this matter. I have given in my report Chatto's statement of his own case, and of the promises which he understood were made to him; and, as it is a principle of justice generally accepted, that even a criminal should not be condemned unheard, I am not sensible of having violated any canon of propriety in thus permitting this man to speak for himself. I have, however, called much more important witnesses to testify to Chatto's character, and to the nature of the treatment promised to him upon the occasion of his interview with the authorities in Washington. My understanding of this case rests largely on the written statements of the Honorable Secretary of War, those of the son of the Honorable Secretary of the Interior, Mr. L. Q. C. Lamar, Jr., and other unimpeachable authorities.

According to the Times' dispatch, the officers of the Interior Department state that "Chatto is known to be a bloodthirsty murderer, and no injustice would have been done to him if he had been hanged or shot." The statement in my report regarding Chatto is distinct. I say: "This man was at one time hostile, and doubtless committed such acts of violence as Indians on the war-path indulge in. But in 1883 Chatto surrendered to General Crook in the Sierra Madre Mountains; at which time he made a promise of good behavior for the future which he has never violated." This assertion Mr. L. Q. C. Lamar, Junior, has strongly supported in the following statement given in writing to Chatto:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

Washington, July 31, 1886.

This is to certify that I know personally Chatto, chief of the Chiricahua Apache Indians, and that since his return to the Apache Reservation in 1883 he has lived peacefully with mankind, exerting at all times a good influence over his people. He has the reputation of being a reliable and brave man.

(Signed)

L. Q. C. LAMAR, Jr.

Is it not a little remarkable that the officers of the Interior Department should have placed the foregoing statement in the hands of a man whom they now declare to be a murderer deserving

ignominious death? There seems to be a singular discrepancy between the two statements.

As to what Chatto was led to expect to be his treatment after leaving Washington, and when, as he claims, he supposed he was en route for his home, I will allow the following statement from the Honorable Secretary of War to declare :

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, July 30, 1886.

"Chatto," chief of the Chiricahua Apaches, has been on a visit to Washington to see the President. He has made known his intention to refrain from war and to work for his living. President Cleveland has assured him *that so long as he shall keep faith with the Government his interest shall be looked after.* In a more prolonged interview with "Chatto," I have endeavored to impress upon his mind that his future prosperity depended upon his following the path of peace and civilization.

(Signed)
(Italics mine.)

WM. C. ENDICOTT,
Secretary of War.

Can anyone claim that it was looking after "Chatto's" interest to lock him up idle and hopeless in Fort Marion?

What was thought of "Chatto," by military men under whom he served may be inferred from the following honorable discharges from scouting service in the United States Army signed by Lieut. Britton Davis and the late Captain Emmet Crawford :

Paid in full \$73.20, January 23, 1885,

Major F. M. COXE,
Paymaster, U. S. A.

Chir. E. 1. ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

To all whom it may concern :

Know ye, that "Chatto," first sergeant of Lieutenant Davis' Company (B) of Indian Scouts, who was enlisted the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, to serve six months, is hereby discharged from the army of the United States in consequence of expiration of term of service.

Said "Chatto" was born in Arizona Territory, is 40 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches high, copper complexion, black eyes, black hair and by occupation when enlisted a Chief.

Given under my hand at Camp on Turkey Creek, Arizona, this thirty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.

(Signed)

BRITTON DAVIS,
2d Lieutenant 3d Cavalry, Commanding.

Character :

No objection to his being re-enlisted is known to exist. Excellent.

(Signed)

BRITTON DAVIS,
2d Lieutenant 3d Cavalry.

Chir. E. 1. ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

To all whom it may concern :

Know ye, That Chatto, a 1st Sergeant of Lieutenant Faison's company (B) of the Battalion of Indian Scouts, who was enlisted the First day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five, to serve six months, is hereby discharged from the Army of the United States in consequence of expiration of term of service.

Said Chatto was born in Arizona Territory, is 40 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches high, copper complexion, black eyes, black hair, and by occupation when enlisted a Chief.

Given under my hand at Fort Bowie, A. T., this 23d day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five.

(Signed)

EMMET CRAWFORD,
Captain 3d Cavalry, Commanding.

Character.

No objection to his being re-enlisted is known to exist. Good.

(Signed)

EMMET CRAWFORD,
Captain 3d Cavalry.

FORT BOWIE, A. T., *October 23, 1885.*

Paid in full on F. S. two hundred and thirty-six eighty-one one-hundredths dollars (\$236.81)

(Signed)

W. H. COMEGYS,
Major and Paymaster U. S. A.

A handsome silver medal was given to Chatto by the Secretary of the Interior, with the words engraved upon it: "From Secretary

Lamar to Chatto," and a cabinet-size photograph of Mr. Lamar. I am at loss to understand why such apparent evidences of good will were given to a man who was judged by the Interior Department to be a blood-thirsty murderer worthy of death, and about to suffer imprisonment. Does it not savor somewhat of sentimentality for high officials to confer silver medals and their photographs on "blood-thirsty murderers," whom they afterwards declare worthy of death?

The testimony of Brigadier-General George Crook, regarding the services of Chatto, Noche, and others now imprisoned in Fort Marion, may be of interest and value to your readers in this connection. General Crook says: "I assert moreover without reserve or qualification of any nature, that these Chiricahua Scouts under chiefs Chatto, Noche and others did most excellent service and were of more value in hunting down and compelling the surrender of the renegades than all other troops engaged in operations against them combined."

In view of the foregoing testimony showing Chatto's good behavior since 1883, and his important services to the Government, part of which testimony is given by those who now accuse me of inaccuracy, the closing assertion of your Washington dispatch is indeed remarkable: "But in reality he was taken to Fort Marion by his own consent, and is now being well taken care of at the expense of the Government." That Chatto, who had been receiving pay for military service, who owned a farm of 14 acres with house and stock should voluntarily permit himself to be locked within the walls of a stone fort with decreased rations and the deprivation of liberty is contrary to his own assertion, and that of the Interpreter, and will, I think, scarcely be credited by reasonable men. The assertion that he is now being well taken care of at the expense of the Government simply means that he is imprisoned in idleness and with no hope or encouragement for the future. In view of Chatto's record since 1883, to charge him with the commission of acts of violence while on the war-path previous to that time, when his promise of future amendment was accepted and acted upon in good faith, would be as unreasonable and unjust as to arraign at this day those who fought in the armies of the Confederacy against the Government of the United States, and who in so doing took human life and destroyed property. In both cases the past is supposed to be obliterated.

But what can be said of the imprisonment of Martinez and of Ki-e-ta, the Chiricahua scouts, who were sent by General Miles into Geronimo's hostile camp, and who accomplished his surrender? What of the scout "Dutchey," who shot the Mexican by whom the gallant Crawford was assassinated? and of many others, women and little children, who, in obedience to popular clamor and without any judicial examination of their case, have been transported from their homes and imprisoned in so unsuitable and inadequate a place as Fort Marion, on an equal footing with those who have done wrong and who deserve punishment?

But the view which I have taken of this case, and which I have expressed in my report, seems to coincide with information obtained by Prof. C. C. Painter, from the War and Interior Departments, regarding it, and submitted to me under date of March 16. Professor Painter writes: "I had a long talk with the Chief Clerk of the War Department. From what he says, with what Secretary Endicott told me, and has written in his report, and what Commissioner Atkins told me to-day, I am satisfied that the case is briefly this: In answer to the demand of Arizona, that the Apaches should be 'removed from her midst,' the Government brought on Chatto, who was regarded as the most influential, and if he did not agree to what was determined upon, the most dangerous man among them, to talk the matter over. The result was a certain conclusion that he did not wish to leave his reservation. It was then decided that it would not be safe to allow him to go back. So the others were carefully rounded up while he was detained here at Carlisle, and finally at Leavenworth. This was done as a military precaution. I think there is no pretence that there was any danger of an outbreak on his part or that of his people, except in view of the purpose to remove them. This policy they were afraid would be resisted, and hence resolved that the Indians should not know of it until they were under guard."

In conclusion, does the Interior Department or any one claim that it is good treatment and wise policy, even supposing that there was at one time a military necessity for removing these people, to continue to feed and imprison able-bodied men in idleness month after month—to teach them no trades, no farming, no useful occupation, but to train them systematically for pauperism at Government expense?

The statement that when "the party reached Leavenworth "Chatto" learned that warrants had been taken out against him and his band by the civil authorities who proposed to punish the Indians for their depredations," which caused him to consent to go to Fort Marion, does not agree with "Chatto's" statement and that of his interpreter, Samuel Bowman, regarding this matter. "Chatto" says that he was told at Leavenworth that orders had been given not to take him to his home, but to a larger and better reservation containing 60 square miles of good land. He states that he knew nothing of Fort Marion until he found himself within its walls. But what had "Chatto's" feelings in the matter, or civil warrants from Arizona to do with his confinement in Fort Marion in view of the following dispatches, which throw clear light on this point :

(Telegram.)

WILCOX, ARIZONA, *August 29, 1886.*

ADJUTANT GENERAL,

Washington, D. C.

I understand that Captain Dorst was turned back from Emporia, Kansas, yesterday. As I gave my word that the Apaches would meet some of their friends at Albuquerque or Holbrook, I ask that Captain Dorst be directed to start at once with four or six Indians and await orders at Albuquerque.

MILES,
Commanding.

(Indorsement on foregoing.)

Respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of War, disapproved.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

(Telegram.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, August 29, 1886.

General NELSON A. MILES,

Commanding Department, Arizona, Prescott, Arizona :

The Lieutenant-General having expressed the opinion that none of the Apache Indians at Fort Leavenworth should be permitted to

go to Arizona, the orders to send some to Wilcox and others to Holbrook, Arizona, have been suspended, and the Indians will remain at Leavenworth until further orders.

R. C. DRUM,
Acting-Secretary of War.

(Telegram.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C.

Commanding General, Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:

You will cause the Apache Indians now at Fort Leavenworth to be sent under charge of Captain Dorst, Fourth Cavalry, by the most direct and expeditious route to Saint Augustine, Florida, and upon arrival to be turned over to the commanding officer at that post for confinement with other Indian prisoners now there.

The Journey of Captain Dorst above enjoined is necessary for the public service, and upon completion of the same he will be directed to report to headquarters Department, Arizona, for further instructions.

Acknowledge receipt and report action.

R. C. DRUM,
Acting Secretary of War.

Let the common sense of the country investigate this matter, and, after a thorough study of the facts, pronounce its verdict.

Respectfully,
(Signed)

HERBERT WELSH,
Corresponding Secretary, I. R. A.

[From N. Y. Times, April 6.]

CHATTO AND HIS COMPANIONS.

It is the War Department and not the Department of the Interior, that is responsible for the imprisonment of the Chiricahua Apaches in the Florida forts. No one asserts that Geronimo and the worst of his followers, who are in Fort Pickens, have been treated with undue severity. They were fortunate to escape with their lives. Nor is it said that other followers of Geronimo, who are confined in Fort Marion, have any cause for complaint. The Government is criticised, however, by the Secretary of the Indian Rights Association, by Senator Dawes and others, for confining with these

captured hostiles the remaining members of the tribe, who had been peaceable for two or three years before their removal from Arizona, and especially for imprisoning there Chatto and those who accompanied him to Washington last Summer, some of whom had served faithfully as enlisted scouts in the army under General Crook and General Miles.

Our Washington dispatches say that Secretary Endicott is not conscious of any intention on the part of the Department to act otherwise than in good faith toward the Indians, and at the same time for the best interests of the people of Arizona. The removal from Arizona of all the Chiricahuas, those who had for two or three years been peaceable as well as those who were captured with Geronimo, was regarded as the best thing that could be done for all concerned. It must be generally admitted that it was necessary to remove them. But Mr. Welsh is of the opinion that Chatto and his companions are the victims of bad faith and that they deserve better treatment than they have received. The Secretary's last report recites the facts with regard to their visit to Washington. It was at General Miles's suggestion that they were allowed to come to the city. He promised them that they should return to Arizona. It was hoped that they could be persuaded to leave the reservation. The Secretary says :

"Their sole desire was to remain where they were; that, apparently, was the object they had in view in coming, and the assurance of the authorities here that they should not be removed was very earnestly pressed. In their interviews with the President, the Secretary of War, or the Secretary of the Interior they expressed no desire or willingness to go elsewhere."

While they were in Washington General Sheridan urged that those who remained on the reservation should be arrested and sent to the Florida fort, and that this delegation should be sent there also. General Miles raised objections. Mr. Welsh has quoted as follows from his letter :

"As the delegation went to Washington by authority of the Government with a view of making some permanent arrangement for the future, I fear it would be charged that the Government had taken advantage of them, and I believe the Indian would consider it an act of bad faith. Second. It would be known by all the other tribes in the Southwest, and they might in the future hesitate about sending any of their number to Washington, even at the request of the Government."

That Chatto and his companions had been assured that they should be allowed to return to Arizona is shown by the following extract from the Secretary's report :

"In the matter of the Lieutenant-General's recommendation that the delegation of Apaches in Washington should also be sent to Fort Marion, it was thought that these Indians should first be returned to Arizona, which was the understanding upon which they came here."

But they were detained at Fort Leavenworth until the remaining members of the tribe had started for Florida, and as they were discontented and had become "turbulent and excited," they were then sent directly to the Florida fort from Kansas by General Sheridan's order. This action appears to have been taken against the protest of General Miles. These are the facts concerning the understanding with Chatto as shown by the official reports.

Chatto's record as an enlisted Sergeant of scouts was excellent, and two of his companions had also been of great service to the Army. They are now imprisoned as if they deserved no more consideration than the followers of Geronimo, who are confined with them. The Government has been criticised for taking this course, on the ground that it is hardly fair to the scouts, and for the additional reason that this treatment may make it difficult for the Army to obtain the services of Indian scouts hereafter, or at least may tend to make those who may be employed suspicious or treacherous.

It should be remembered by the War Department critics that the confinement of the Apaches in the forts is not a permanent solution of the problem. It is a temporary expedient. What shall be done with those who were not associated with Geronimo? What State or Territory will take them? They are excluded by law from the Indian Territory. It was difficult, if not impossible, for the Department, under the circumstances, to adopt any policy concerning these Indians that would be wholly satisfactory to everybody.

WASHINGTON, *April 5.*

THE NEWS OF WASHINGTON.—All the members were present at the Cabinet meeting to-day. A question considered was in regard to the transfer of certain hostile Apaches to a public reservation near Mobile, Ala.

[*Washington dispatch in Philadelphia Record, Saturday, April 9, 1887.*]

THE IMPRISONED APACHE INDIANS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April 8.*

The agitation set on foot by Senator Dawes and Mr. Herbert Welsh relative to the "imprisonment" of the Apache Indians who are at Fort Marion, Florida, has had its effect upon the President, who brought the matter up in Cabinet meeting this week, and has caused the Secretary of War to prepare an order for the removal of the Indians to a more secluded reservation. The Indians are comfortable enough where they are, but they are hemmed in by sight-seers and are made a show of. It is thought that it will be better for them to be in a quieter place, where they can have a better chance to move about, and also a better chance to do work, if any of them can be made to work. Geronimo and his fellow cut-throats will be retained at Fort Pickens, where they now are.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA,

Los Angeles, California, April 4, 1887.

To the Editor, The Army and Navy Register, Washington, D. C. :

SIR: In your paper of the 26th ultimo is published an extract from the report of Mr. Herbert Welsh, who visited the Chiricahua Indians at Fort Marion, Florida, accompanied by Captain J. G. Bourke, U. S. A. Speaking of Martinez and Ki-e-ta, Mr. Welsh says: "General Miles said he would give them ten ponies apiece, if they would find Geronimo, and persuade him to surrender. *

* * Leaving the lieutenant and the soldiers eight miles behind, the two Indian scouts went unattended into the camp of Geronimo. They spent three days with him, trying to persuade him to leave the war-path and surrender to General Miles. They say that General Miles instructed them to say to Geronimo that if he would surrender he might go back to Fort Apache. Geronimo finally consented to give himself up, and in company with Ki-e-ta and Martinez he joined Lieutenant Gatewood and his soldiers. If the story of the two scouts be correct, the surrender was far from being unconditional."

The undersigned accompanied the two Indians, and represented General Miles in communicating with the hostiles previous to his meeting them, and knows very well the incorrectness of the above statements. They were not promised ten ponies apiece, nor did

they so understand it. In Mexico, days after having left General Miles, they told me that no definite pay was promised them, and they wanted to know what they would receive for their services, and if success of their mission would not increase it. All that these two Indians were expected or required to do was to go down at a time Geronimo's band was worn down, out of ammunition and closely pursued by the troops, and to demand their surrender. I had nothing to do with their remuneration, and so informed them. Afterwards, at Fort Bowie, they were paid for their services and were satisfied with what was given them.

Whatever may be said by the Indians, or by anyone else, as to the terms of surrender, the following is what actually happened :

The two Indians and their small escort, having encamped on the Bavispe river, August 23, 1886, the former, as a matter of precaution, followed the trail, and examined the country several miles ahead.

Martinez returned about sundown and reported that he had found the camp of the hostiles in the rough mountains, in sight several miles ahead, and that Ki-e-ta would remain there all night. He said further that they desired to "talk" with the officer who represented General Miles, and *not with the two Indians themselves*. As it was too late that day, the meeting could take place the next morning.

The two parties met according to this arrangement, and the conference lasted all day long. The hostiles were informed that if they would surrender they would be moved to some place to be designated by General Miles, under the orders of the President, and that the *place would not be the San Carlos or Apache reservation*. *They would not be allowed to return there again*. They insisted on this condition, and said they would not surrender unless it was promised them ; they were positive. At sundown we left the place of rendezvous, with the understanding that they would further consider what was offered and the advice given—to surrender and trust to General Miles and the President. We returned to the camp of the night before, to which place Captain Lawton and his command had, in the meantime, arrived. It was also understood that General Miles should be communicated with, in the hope of getting better terms, although the uselessness of such proceeding was represented to them. The next morning I met Geronimo and several others outside Captain Lawton's camp, when they said that, after considering the matter, they had concluded to

surrender, if Captain Lawton would promise to protect them until they could meet General Miles face to face, tell their story to him and hear from his own lips what he had to say. Captain Lawton gave them his word that he would comply with their wishes, and did conduct them to the place where General Miles met them. The surrender was then accomplished, as reported by General Miles.

They believed it would be best for them to trust to the mercy of the Department Commander and the President. It was distinctly understood all the time that their final disposition should rest where it properly belongs—with the President of the United States. When they found that they could not obtain better terms, they asked only one mercy, namely, that their lives might be spared. I am aware, of my personal knowledge, that not only Geronimo and Natchez thoroughly comprehended what they were doing, but so did every individual man in the two bands. These facts can be attested by many officers and men in whose presence the different conversations occurred. It was understood by everyone that they would be banished to Florida, and they were told that those at Fort Apache were being sent there also. Geronimo asked how long he would be on the way, and was told five days.

The Indians camps on the reservation have been the source and rendezvous of the hostile element, and from them have been made the bloody raids that devastated Arizona and New Mexico for years. Not less than five hundred citizens have been murdered in the last ten years. There is not a Chiricahua Indian man that has not been engaged in some of their outbreaks, and Chatto, Dutchy, Ka-e-tenna and many others are now under indictment in the civil courts for their crimes. It is true that some of them have been in the service as scouts, both before the outbreak and afterwards, and there can be no doubt that much of the ammunition issued to them went into the belts of the hostiles. As far as my observation went in the earlier part of the campaign, Chatto and the other Chiricahua scouts could scarcely be considered faithful; they hindered rather than aided the operations of the troops.

Before their removal was started from Fort Apache, and while efforts were being made to properly carry it out and their condition benefitted, they were plotting a more serious outbreak.

Under fear of being tried for their crimes, they agreed to be removed to any place designated by General Miles, and remain until

such time as the Government might provide them a reservation and the means of support, but this was not confirmed by the Government. General Sheridan telegraphed that it had been decided to send them to Florida "as a preliminary step," and the Acting Secretary of War ordered them straight to Fort Marion, to which place they were moved.

Very respectfully,

CHARLES B. GATEWOOD,
First Lieutenant Sixth Cavalry.

The foregoing communication from Lieutenant Gatewood reached me just as my report, in its final form, as I supposed, was about to be published. I have very gladly delayed publication until I could incorporate Lieutenant Gatewood's communication, as given to the Army and Navy Register, with my report, as it is my desire to have all possible light thrown upon the questions at issue. The account of the surrender of the hostiles under Geronimo to General Miles, which I have given in my report, is according to the story told me by the two scouts, Martinez and Ki-e-ta during my interview with them at Fort Marion, and as their statements were interpreted to me by Concepcion and Samuel Bowman. With the desire to be strictly impartial I have printed elsewhere in this report General Miles' account of the surrender, and that given by Brigadier-General D. S. Stanley in his letter to the Adjutant-General of the Army, written at San Antonio, Texas, October 27, 1886. It has been my purpose to present fairly and, so far as possible, in their own words the views of all those who were intimately concerned in this matter, and who were therefore entitled to speak regarding it. For whatever disparity may exist in these various statements I am not accountable.

Lieutenant Gatewood toward the close of his letter to the Army and Navy Register, speaking of the Chiricahua scouts, says: "It is true that some of them have been in the service as scouts, both before the outbreak and afterwards, and their can be no doubt that much of the ammunition issued to them went into the belts of the hostiles. As far as my own observation went, in the earlier part of the campaign Chatto and the other Chiricahua scouts could scarcely be considered faithful; they hindered rather than aided the operation of the troops."

In reply to this statement I can only refer my readers to testimony already submitted as to the character and services of Chatto

and other Chiricahua scouts, and then ask their consideration of additional testimony of similar tenor taken from the "Report of Operations Against Apache Indians, May, 1885 to April, 1886, by Brigadier-General George Crook, U. S. A." This testimony, resting as it does upon the official letters and dispatches of officers who fought through all the early part of the last campaign, (while General Crook was in command) and under whom the scouts in question served, seems, to my mind, to furnish a very conclusive answer to Lieutenant Gatewood's strictures.

FROM REPORT OF CAPTAIN ALLEN SMITH, FOURTH CAVALRY, TO
GENERAL CROOK.

(All italics mine.—H. W.)

June 15, 1887.

The fight lasted about half an hour, and the Indians fired very rapidly and a great many shots. Two men, Private Haag, Troop A, shot in right thigh, and Private Williams, Troop K, slightly wounded in arm, *and one scout shot quite badly*, through left arm, one horse killed and another wounded, belonging to Troop A, were the casualties on our side. From the indications, blood near the rifle pits, etc., I am of the opinion that we wounded some of the Indians. The officers (Lieutenants Parker, Gatewood, Lockett and Finley, 10th Cavalry) men and scouts all behaved remarkably well.

* * * * *

On the 30th, as no word had been sent to me I moved above Sopillo creek and there got word from Gatewood that the Indians had got out of the high mountains during the night and were working west. Moved down the canon again where Davis and *Chatto with the scouts joined me*. The scouts had struck the rear guard of the Indians, *had captured seventeen ponies, two mules and six saddles, and scattered the Indians, bucks, women and children, all through that part of the mountains*. Marched twelve miles.

* * * * *

I am convinced that the presence of my command saved the lives of the people on the upper Eagle creek, and on the Gila from the mouth of Duck creek to the mouth of Sapillo creek; even if we performed no other service.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

ALLEN SMITH,
Captain 4th Cavalry.

Copy.

D.

CAMP ON BATEPITO RIVER,
SIX MILES ABOVE OPUTO, MEXICO,
June 25, 1885.

GENERAL CROOK,

Whipple Barracks, A. T.

That afternoon *Chatto* left camp with a picked body of scouts to endeavor to overtake and capture the men whose trail we had seen, or failing in that, to locate the camp and hold the hostiles, if possible, until the rest of the command could overtake them. Some of the scouts returned night before last and the rest yesterday morning with the following report:

After leaving camp they marched until about dark, when it began to rain heavily and washed out the trail, when they camped. Starting again the next morning they entered the range of mountains towards which the trail had been leading, and about nine o'clock came in sight of the ranchiera. The camp was in such a position that *Chatto* thought it impracticable to surround it without being seen by the hostiles, in which event the chances of capturing any of them would have been very poor. The best position practicable was obtained and *Chatto* then opened the fight. As soon as the firing commenced the hostiles fled and endeavored to escape with their women and children through several deep canons which joined near the camp. The *scouts* followed as rapidly as the nature of the ground would permit, and for several miles a running fight was kept up; but the canons were so very rough that the pursuit was slow, and the bucks, eight in number, with four boys and three women, escaped to the mountains. Fifteen women and children were captured, and one of the women was sent by *Chatto* to see if she could not induce the surrender of the others of the party. This woman has not yet returned. There was also captured all the property belonging to the party, five horses belonging to the 4th Cavalry, three saddles, two revolvers, cartridge belts, ammunition, etc., belonging to soldiers killed in Gaudalope canon; one white mule branded U. S., and other property of less value. One Indian was killed and several others wounded in the fight. Two of the captives, one a squaw and the other a child, were wounded; one scout, a White Mountain, known as "Big Dave," was shot through the elbow, his arm being broken. The camp was that of Chihuahua,

whose entire family is among the captives. Natchez is supposed to have left him several days before the fight, and is now thought to be with Mangus and Geronimo on the eastern slope of the Sierra Madre. Expect to leave here to-morrow morning, continuing to follow Natchez' trail into the Sierra Madre. Country through which trail has led so far is extremely rough and with scarcely any water.

(Signed)

EMMET CRAWFORD,
Captain 3d Cavalry, Commanding.

HOSTILES KILLED BY APACHE SCOUTS.

Hostile Chiricahuas killed and captured during present campaign :

June 23, 1885. One woman killed and fifteen women and children captured in engagement in Bavispe mountains, northeast of Oputo, by *Apache scouts* under command of Captain Crawford.

July 29, 1885. Two hostile bucks ambushed by a detachment of *Apache scouts of Captain Davis' command*, killed in Hoya mountains, Mexico.

August 7, 1885. Five hostiles killed (three bucks, one squaw and one boy) and fifteen women and children captured in an engagement in Sierra-Madre, northeast of Nacori, by *Apache scouts*, under command of Captain Wirt Davis, Fourth Cavalry.

September 25, 1885. One hostile killed in engagement between Hoya mountains and Bavispe river, Mexico, by *Apache scouts*, under command of Captain Davis, Fourth Cavalry.

November 25, 1885. One hostile killed near Fort Apache, by *friendly White Mountain Indians*.

The above list contains all that are positively known to have been killed. In other instances, commanding officers have reported that in their judgment other casualties have occurred, and this is probably true, but it has been deemed best to show only those positively reported.

(Signed)

GEORGE CROOK,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

Headquarters D. A. In the field. January 11, 1886.

FORT LOWELL, ARIZONA TERRITORY,
March 10, 1886.

* * * * *

The Chiricahua scouts had informed me that on the eastern slope of the La Hoya mountains was a large spring, at which the renegade

Chiricahua's had often tarried for six or seven days, gathering mes-cal, which grew in abundance in the vicinity. As the renegades had eluded the Mexicans, and had not seen my command, it was probable that they would halt at the spring. So I sent the two companies of scouts (eighty-six of the best men), officers and chiefs of scouts, dismounted, with five days short rations, into the La Hoya mountains, to surprise the hostiles, if possible, and if not, to follow the trail, which was leading southeast, in the direction of Huepere creek, where, on the first of August, I should join them with the balance of the command and with the pack train. I marched down the Bavispe river and then across the mountains to Huepere creek, ten miles southwest of Guachinera, arriving there on August 1st, where I found the scouts.

While in the La Hoya mountains, Bi-er-ley, first Sergeant of Lieutenant Walsh's company of scouts, went out (July 28th) with a small party of his men (Coyotera Apaches) for a day's reconnoissance, and succeeded in ambushing four hostiles, killing two of them and capturing four horses and three saddles, bridles and blankets, which were sent to me on the Bavispe river, before I crossed the mountains.

(Signed)

WIRT DAVIS,
Captain Fourth Cavalry.

* * * * *

Just before sunset *the scouts attacked and speedily routed the hostiles*, who fled over the mountains, it appeared that Cooley had struck the rear guard, captured their horses, and indiscreetly had hurried two sergeants forward on the trail. These sergeants followed the trail and at a ridge covered with dense undergrowth, about a mile from where they got the horses, immediately walked into an ambush prepared for them, one (Cooley's brother) was killed not ten feet from the man who shot him, the other sergeant escaped. In the fight which ensued, the scouts stripping and showing much spirit, *one of my scouts, a Chiricahua, was slightly wounded in the thigh*, one of the hostiles was killed, and one or two, it is believed, wounded, as considerable blood and bloody bandages were found on the trail the next day. The command camped after dark on the ground where the fight had occurred. The next morn-

ing, September 23d, after burying the sergeant, the command resumed the pursuit through the Teres mountains, across the Bavispe river, and in a northeasterly direction towards Chihuahua.

On September 25th, while on the trail, I sent a courier to Lieutenant Erwin, 4th Cavalry, at Nogalitos, directing him to proceed.

Lieutenant M. W. Day, 9th Cavalry, deserves commendation for soldierly conduct in surprising Geronimo's camp in the Sierra Madre mountains, August 7th, 1885, and for gallant conduct in the fight in Teres mountains, Sonora, September 22d, 1885. Lieutenant R. D. Walsh, 4th Cavalry, and Assistant Surgeon H. P. Birmingham, U. S. A., behaved in a zealous and gallant manner in the fight in the Teres mountains, September 22d, 1885. Lieutenant J. B. Irwin, 4th Cavalry, who was left September 19th at Nogalitos, Sonora, with troop F 4th Cavalry, one pack train, and eighteen scouts, and marched them through Lang's ranch, New Mexico, performed his duties during the whole campaign in a highly satisfactory manner. Mr. Roberts, Chief of Scouts and Bi-er-ley, 1st Sergeant of Lieutenant Walsh's company of scouts, behaved very gallantly, as reported to me by Lieutenant Day and others, in the fight on the 7th of August. *The scouts generally worked zealously and did well through the whole campaign.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WIRT DAVIS,
Captain, 4th Cavalry,

CAMP ON CARRETAS CREEK, CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO,
January 30, 1886.

General JOACHIM TERRASAS,
Army of Mexico.

General: On January 10th, Captain Crawford with his U. S. Indian Scouts (eighty) attacked and captured a camp of hostile Chiricahuas at a point about sixty miles south of Nacori. Nine prisoners (two men and seven women and children) were taken captive and all of the hostiles, provisions and ponies (sixty). At daylight on the morning of the 11th of January *Captain Crawford's scouts were attacked by about one hundred and fifty citizens from Guerrero, Chihuahua.* Captain Crawford, 3d Cavalry, U. S. Army, was killed while trying to stop the attack. *Three Indian scouts and one Chief (American) of Scouts were wounded.* There

were several casualties among the citizens from Guerrero. Captain Crawford was buried in the cemetery at Nacori. His scouts, under the command of Lieutenant Maus, U. S. Army, passed through my camp to-day en route to the United States, taking with them the nine prisoners (Chiricahuas). The prisoners state that Mangus and twelve other hostiles are at the head of the Rio Verde (Haros) river in Chihuahua. The remainder of the hostiles have scattered through Sonora going northwest, so it is said. I shall remain here a day or two longer, and shall then go northward in direction of Guadalupe canon, United States. The death of Captain Crawford was a sad one, and will cause profound sorrow and regret in the United States.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

WIRT DAVIS,

Brevet Major U. S. Army,

Captain 4th Cavalry,

Commanding U. S. Forces in Mexico.

FORT BOWIE, ARIZONA TERRITORY,

April 8, 1886.

* * * * *

On the night of the 23d two disarmed scouts, alleged to have been drunk, were fired upon by Mexican guards in the town of Hussavas. *One of these scouts was seriously injured by a wound in the face and shoulder.*

As far as my close investigation shows this shooting was brutal and unnecessary, no complaint of any kind was made against any of the scouts previous to this time. A full report of this matter has been submitted to your office.

* * * * *

On the 9th the advanced scouts, with *Chiricahua Noche*, whose knowledge of this country seemed remarkable, sent word for us to continue our advance, which was necessarily slow. About 11.50 A. M. we moved out from our camp made during the night previous, and about 2 P. M. word was received that the herd of the hostiles was seen about fifteen miles ahead, being driven by some Indians. We now pushed rapidly along, and about sundown received word the camp was located still from ten to twelve miles distant. Captain Crawford now decided to continue our march and attack the hostile camp at daylight the next morning. A hard day's march had

